

Plateosauria

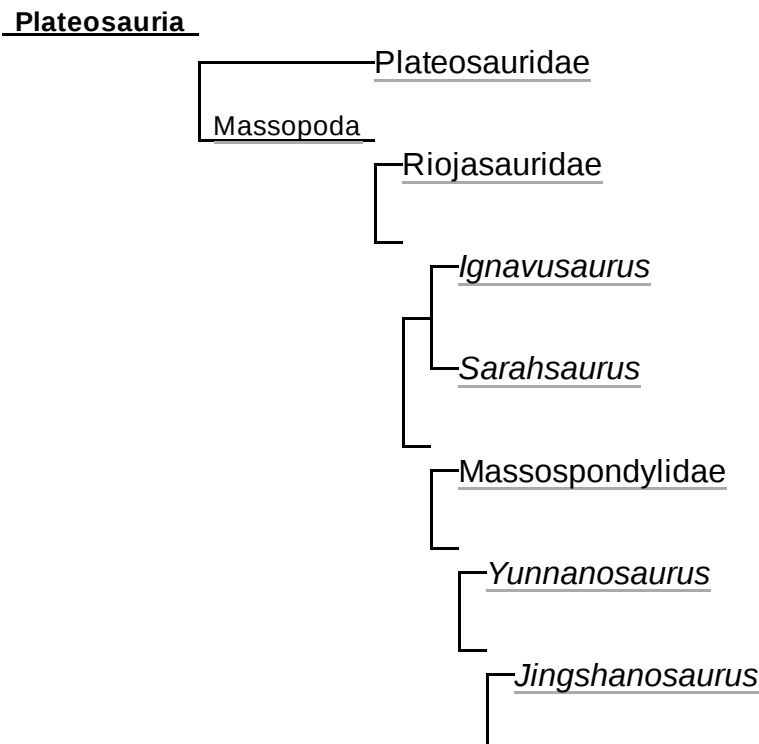
Plateosauria is a clade of sauropodomorph dinosaurs which lived during the Late Triassic to the Late Cretaceous. The name Plateosauria was first coined by Gustav Tornier in 1913.^[1] The name afterwards fell out of use until the 1980s.



Classification

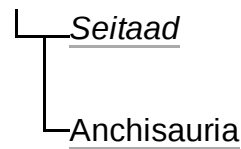
Plateosauria is a node-based taxon. In 1998, Paul Sereno defined Plateosauria as the last common ancestor of *Plateosaurus engelhardti* and *Massospondylus carinatus*, and its descendants.^[2] Peter Galton and Paul Upchurch in 2004 used a different definition: the last common ancestor of *Plateosaurus engelhardti* and *Jingshanosaurus xinwaensis*, and its descendants. In their cladistic analysis the Plateosauria belonged to the Prosauropoda, and included the Plateosauridae subgroup. In Galton's and Upchurch's study also *Coloradisaurus*, *Euskelosaurus*, *Jingshanosaurus*, *Massospondylus*, *Mussaurus*, *Sellosaurus*, and *Yunnanosaurus* proved to be plateosaurians.^[3]

However, recent cladistic analyses suggest that the Prosauropoda as traditionally defined is paraphyletic to sauropods.^{[4][5][6][7][8]} Prosauropoda, as currently defined, is a synonym of Plateosauridae as both contain the same taxa by definition.

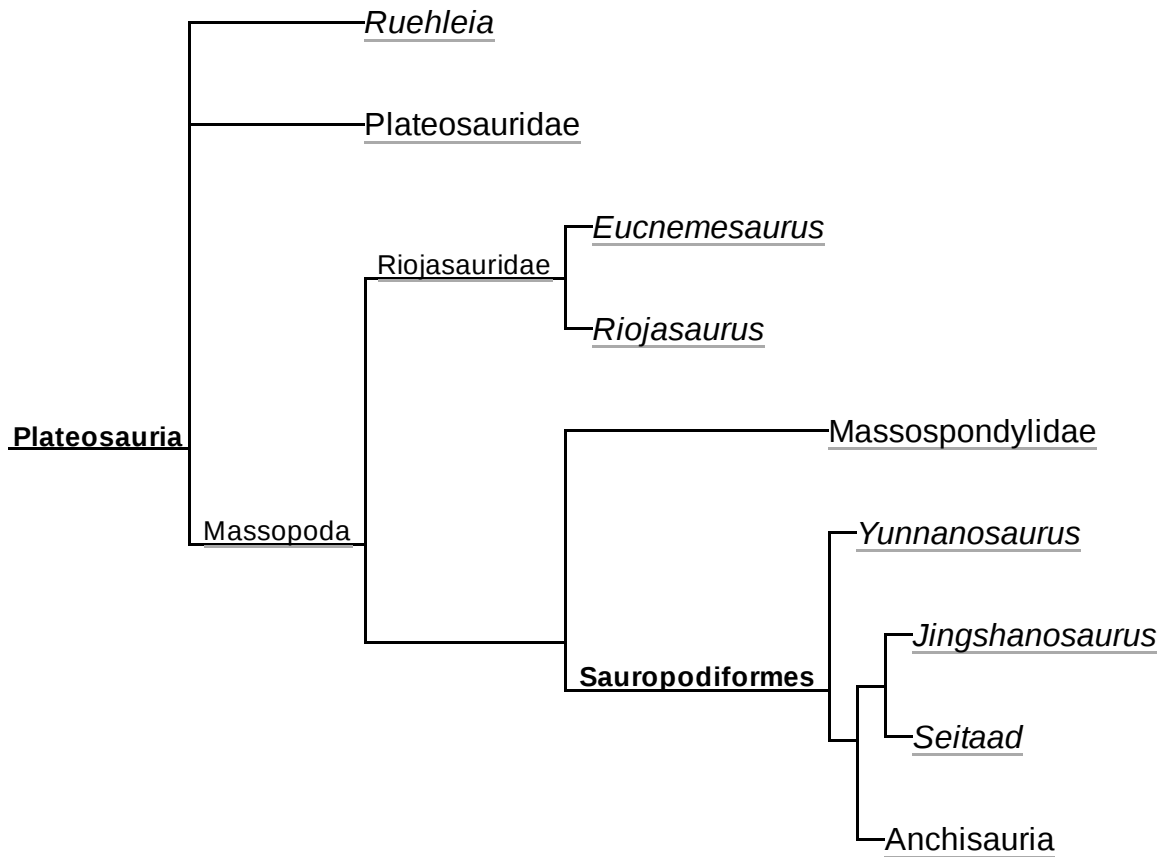
The following cladogram simplified after an analysis presented by Apaldetti and colleagues in 2011.^[8]



Plateosaurians
Temporal range: Late Triassic-Late Cretaceous, 225–66 Ma
<div>PreЄЄOSDCPTJKPgN</div>

<i>Plateosaurus engelhardti</i> skeleton
Scientific classification 
Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Clade: Dinosauria
Clade: Saurischia
Suborder: †Sauropodomorpha
Clade: †Plateosauria Tornier, 1913
Subgroups
<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">†<i>Plateosauravus</i>†<i>Ruehleia</i>†<i>Xixiposaurus?</i>†Plateosauridae†Massopoda</div>



The following cladogram simplified after an analysis presented by Blair McPhee and colleagues in 2014.^[9]



References

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